

Declaration Helps Farmers Affected by Severe Hail and Rain in May

Marlton, NJ – Congressman John Adler today announced that the U.S. Department of Agriculture has designated Burlington and Ocean counties as primary natural disaster areas. This designation makes certain types of assistance available to farmers affected by wind, frost, hail and flooding which occurred between May 7, 2010 and May 31, 2010.

"Heavy storms put an enormous strain on our local farmers," Congressman John Adler said. "This assistance will help New Jersey's agricultural community recover and lift the burden off the local taxpayer. Burlington and Ocean county farmers deserve to be treated fairly during these tough economic times."

This disaster designation allows the Farm Service Agency (FSA) to offer certain types of assistance to local farmers. The assistance includes FSA emergency loans and the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) program which provides financial assistance for crop production and/or quality losses due to a natural disaster. Farmers in designated primary natural disaster areas have eight months after declaration to apply for emergency assistance.

In addition to Burlington and Ocean counties, Atlantic, Camden, Cape May and Cumberland counties will also receive assistance. Further information is available at the Disaster Assistance page of the FSA website at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.